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# Honest Advice

TO THE  
PEOPLE of *IRELAND*.

Occasioned by the  
PRESENT ATTEMPT

In FAVOUR of the  
*P R E T E N D E R.*

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*Come on, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that when there falleth out any War, they join also to our Enemies, and fight against us.*

Exodus, chap 1: ver 10.

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D U B L I N :  
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# Honest Advice

People of VERMONT



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## *Honest Advice, &c.*

*Friends, Countrymen, and Fellow Subjects,*

**T**HE publick Accounts which we receive of a Rebellion begun in *Scotland*, are sufficient to alarm every true Protestant, who has the Interest of his Country at Heart. And whether we turn our Attention to the Promoter of this Insolent Undertaking, or to those who are the Instruments of it; we must perceive, that no less is aimed at, than the entire Subversion of our present happy Constitution; the Ruin of our Rights, Ecclesiastical as well as Civil; the Alteration of our Religion; the Destruction of our Trade; and the Abolition of our Liberty.

When this is our Prospect of Affairs; what Tongue or Pen should be silent?

I am conscious of the Difficulty that attends Writers in general; and those in particular, who address themselves thus to the Publick, on political Occasions. Want of Zeal in some, want of Curiosity in others, and frequently want of good Nature, or good Sense, prevent Multitudes from examining, or approving what is well-intended. The Name of an

Author is often found to influence Men's Judgments, more than his Composition; and in Proportion, as the one hath obtained a favourable Reception, it generally secures it to the other.

If I had undertaken this Subject from any other Motive, than publick Spirit, and love of Liberty, Religion and Loyalty; the Observations I have made on the hard Fate of Authors, would certainly have deterred me from appearing in the Number.

But, as I address you my Fellow Subjects, only from a thorough Sense of what I owe to God, my King, and my Country; I am not without Hope, that every impartial Protestant Reader, will be animated to *act*, with as much honest Zeal, and Loyalty, as I *write*.

I will boldly assert, that his present Majesty K. George, hath not a more affectionate Body of Subjects, than the Protestant Natives; and Inhabitants of his Kingdom of *Ireland*: None more sanguine in the Defence of the established Religion; none more sensible of the Blessings they derive from the present *Royal* Family. This, they have manifested on all Occasions; and therefore, it may seem unnecessary to write upon this Subject, to a *Nation* so firmly allied in Principles and Interest, to the Crown of *England*. But, although the generality of our People, may be truly loyal, and vigilant against all Designs to the Prejudice of our King and Country; yet, while Emissaries are  
secretly

secretly at work, to bring new Calamities on this Nation; while some disaffected Zealots may exert their Affiduity to poison weak or giddy Minds; while some out of Levity, and some from corrupt Principles; some by want of Thought, and some out of an Expectation of mending a desperate Fortune, by desperate Times, may inconsiderately be misled into destructive Notions or Projects; it cannot be unreasonable, to remind my Countrymen of their Danger, to recal to their Memories the Miseries of past Times, to place before their Eyes the fatal Consequences of any Revolution in Favour of the Pretender; and to keep alive that Spirit of Loyalty, which hath made us a happy People, under the best Government, and the best Constitution in the World.

Certainly, there can be no Method more probable, or effectual to discourage any Attempts upon Us from Abroad, than a visible Union among Protestants. For, there is no greater Encouragement to those who are watchful to kindle up civil Disturbances, than to perceive the smallest latent Sparks of Disagreement among the People. This hath been the prevailing Maxim in the Politicks of all ambitious States; who, wanting Power to subdue Kingdoms under their Yoke, unless by the Concurrence of the Inhabitants of those Kingdoms, have founded all their Hope on the Divisions they could foment, and the Contests that might be propagated among them.

them. Private Feuds and Animosities disarm and weaken both Parties; and by that Means, Nations become an easy Sacrifice, enslaved by their own Folly, and their own Arms.

I would therefore, earnestly and principally recommend it to my Countrymen, to be at this Time of one Heart, and of one Mind. The Protestant Power in *Ireland*, is at present sufficient to guard itself against any Apprehensions; nor can that Power ever be subverted, except by the Assistance of Protestants themselves. This our Enemies know perfectly, and their prospect of Success in the Project now on Foot, arises from this single Point, more than from any Dependence they can have on the Weight of the Popish Party among us.

It is universally known by the History of past Reigns, that *England* will never submit willingly to a *Popish Head*. The *British* Notions of Liberty, are quite incompatible with the Doctrine of unlimited passive Obedience in the Subject, or arbitrary Power in the Prince. For which Reason, *France*, who is to be considered as the main Projector of this absurd Scheme, would not directly seem to obtrude a Papist on the People of these Realms; but in order to create a Misunderstanding amongst Protestants, makes its Tool declare himself to be *one*; educated in the Faith, as it is professed in the Established Church; and resolved to maintain the same Religion,

Religion, if we may be prevailed on to give Credit to his Declarations. Aspiring, by this Conduct to persuade us, that a Change would be attended with no other Consequences, than a Change of Governours.

But, as it is my firm Opinion, that no true Protestant can be in the Interest of the *Pretender*, or his Abettors, it is to be hoped, that none who have common Understanding, common Regard to their native Country; or even a moderate Affection for a Religion which is recommended to us by the Blood of our honest and loyal Ancestors, will be blinded with such faithless and fraudulent Representations. Because, every Man of plain Sense must know these two important *Truths*,

1. That any Revolution in Favour of the Pretender, must be attended with an Alteration in the Established Religion, notwithstanding any Declaration to the contrary, how strong soever, and,

2. That any Project of that Kind, under the Influence of *France*, will inseparably have annexed to it, Slavery, Persecution, and arbitrary Power; the Destruction of Trade, and the Confusion of Property.

The first of these Truths is demonstrable, from the Method of the Pretender's setting out. His Paper, (called his *Manifesto*) as I am informed, represents him, as a Protestant. But, where did he imbibe such Principles? at *Rome*!—under the Influence of his Father, the  
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weakest Bigot to his Religion, that ever *Rome* countenanced!—A Man! the most unlikely, to permit even the least Tincture of any reformed Principles to be infused in any of his Family:—A Man! who when he had induced many wrong-headed Persons in *Scotland*, in the Year 1715, to appear under his Banners, had the Weakness to declare himself in Favour of Popery, directly contrary to what he had promised to his Adherents:—And, who, consulting only his own Security, left them to suffer the Punishment due to their indiscreet Credulity, as well as to their Rebellion:—A Man! as fickle and faithless, as Popery and *France* can make him:—A Man! whose good Qualities are as undiscoverable as his Birth:—A Man! who has been for these 30 Years past, the Sport of *France*, the Slave of *Rome*, and the Scorn of *Europe*.

Under such a Director, and such an Example, what Principles can shoot up in the Son we may readily comprehend. And yet the Son of such a Father has the Insolence to turn his Eyes on the Sceptre of these Realms!

But, in Truth all these Professions of Conformity to our Religion, are calculated merely to delude the unthinking. For the Son assumes, as we are told, only the Title of *Regent*, and Prince of *Wales*, thereby proclaiming himself no more, than the second in Dignity. So that, should there be any Revolution in his Favour, (which may God avert!)

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it is plain, that the Possession of these Kingdoms is wholly appropriated to that same individual *Bigot*, who would, were he in Power, exactly trace the Steps of *James* the 2<sup>d</sup>, in his Zeal for his own Corruptions; in his Cruelties to those who differed; in his Extirpation of us Protestants; and in the Demolition of our Church, and our Liberties,

And lest any unguarded Mind might be influenced to credit even the most solemn Promises of our new Invaders, with regard to the Preservation of Protestant Rights and Privileges; it will not be improper, on this Occasion, to take Notice of the Disposition of the People of *England*, before, and at the Accession of the late King *James*; which will sufficiently demonstrate the Justness of their Apprehensions, as well as the Insecurity derived from Popish Oaths or Treaties.

The dread of falling under the Tyranny of *France* and *Rome*, had struck such an universal Terror thro' all *England*, towards the latter End of King *Charles* the Second's Reign, that no Remedy was thought sufficient, without absolutely rejecting the Duke of *York* from being King. This gave Birth to the famous *Bill of Exclusion*, in which the Causes assigned for depriving him for ever of the Succession, were, his seeking to aggrandize *France*, as well as his Tendency to *Romish* Idolatry. For the Tenor of the Bill was, that as the Emisaries of the *Pope* had seduced

him, to become the Means of advancing the Power and Greatness of the *French* King, and as the Descent of these Crowns on a *Papist*, would bring these Kingdoms into manifest Hazard, by encouraging foreign Alliance and Assistance, therefore he should be incapable of Inheriting.

Now, altho' this Attempt in Parliament, loudly proclaimed the general Sense of the Nation; and their equal Abhorrence of *French* Influence, and Popish Government; yet he adhered unalterably to his own erroneous Maxims, and was profuse of Engagements which he never intended to perform.

On his Accession, he solemnly declared in Council, that he would preserve the Government both in Church and State, as established by Law; — so perhaps declares the Pretender—and yet two Days after his Accession he went to Mass publicly;—and so certainly would the Pretender.—If Oaths, which are our most sacred Ties, could bind the Conscience, he *swore* at his Coronation to maintain the true Profession of the Gospel; the Protestant Reformed Religion; and all the Rights and Privileges of the Bishops and Clergy of these Realms;—and so would the Pretender;---yet at the Moment he swore, he had not the least Intention to fulfill any one Article of his Oath;---and just the same Principle should we find in the Pretender.--His very Religion demanded of him the Destruction

tion of his Protestant Subjects;---so does it with the *Pretender* :--Yet he tried every dissimulative Artifice to persuade them to believe the contrary, till they bled under the Rod of his cruel Power;---and so would the Pretender.--In short, every Oppression, every Scheme to impoverish a People, was rigorously executed on the distressed Protestants of *Ireland*, our whole Kingdom being over-run with Plunderers, Priests, and Brass Money,---and thus would it be again under any *Pretender*.

From this short Sketch of the Sincerity of Popish Oaths, Declarations, Treaties, and Promises, we may be qualified to judge, what Consequences the intended Invasion must necessarily have. The same Principles will for ever produce a Similitude of Conduct, as the same Effects, always flow from the same Causes. So that, unless we Protestants have our Minds infatuated; unless we wish to see the detestable Tyranny of *Rome* once more exemplified in our national Desolation; unless we calmly can behold our Fathers, our Wives, our Children, and all that are dear to us, bleeding beneath the Severity of frantick Zeal; unless we can patiently endure to see our Lands, and our Houses laid waste, and be content to be punished with continual Instances of Stripes, and Bonds, and Imprisonments; certainly unless our Hearts and Dispositions are debased even to the lowest Degree, no true Protestant, no real Lover of his Country will

ever concur, to have such Scenes of Horror acted over again in this poor Kingdom.

Our Enemies Abroad, and perhaps at Home, are already impatient to fly upon the Spoil; and probably, even now dispose of our Persons and Properties by imaginary Donations, or Acts of Attainder. Nor is it unlikely, that *France* who is ever as Insolent as she is Ambitious, embroiling Nations to extend her Power, may, by this Time, have parcelled out *Britain* itself among some of her late Bankrupts: by the Sale of *English* Lands to repair those Finances, which have been exhausted by the Ruin of her Trade by Sea.

Nor is it reasonable to flatter ourselves with any other Expectations, from an Alteration in our Government by the Interposition of *France*, than to have Slavery, and civil Commotions, Persecution and Poverty, Oppression and *Romish* Cruelty introduced into these Kingdoms. For if we look back into the *English* History and Transactions, it will be plainly Evident, that all our Disturbances from the Reign of *Q. Elizabeth* to the present Period, have had no other Origin, than *French* Politicks, and *French* Influence; exerted, either in spiriting up *Spain* or some other Power to excite Troubles; or, in employing her own Arms, Money, or Treachery to create Confusions among us.

Nor can we be surprized at it if we consider, that *Great Britain* is the main Obstacle that lies in the Way, to retard that restless Crown in its iniquitous

iniquitous Progress to Universal Monarchy; to which System it would gladly Sacrifice, all her Oaths, Wealth, or Treaties; all Principles of Truth, Justice, or Honour.—*France*, indeed, acts only consistently, in promoting this and all preceding Invasions of these Kingdoms; but, shall we ourselves be the dishonourable Instruments of her Ambition?—Shall Protestants, who ought to be all Patriots on such an Occasion, conspire to destroy what God and Nature demand them to defend?—Shall *Irish* or *British* Freemen put on the Fetters of *French* Slaves; and establish in their native Country, Cruelties so severely experienced, and which they ought to risk their Lives and Fortunes to prevent?

Besides, there is another weighty Consideration against our accepting any Governor from the Hands of *France*, which is, that it would in a most sensible Manner affect our Commerce. We cannot but know, that the Prosperity of these Nations is so entirely derived from *Trade*, that it must be impossible for us to subsist, except our Intercourse with others be preserved free, extensive, and uninterrupted. It is also manifest, that *France* hath been for half a Century our great Rival and Competitor, in every Part of the World, and in every Branch of our most beneficial Commerce: Erecting large Manufactories within her own Dominions, to the Impoverishment of ours; and having recourse to all Arts and Methods to extend her Power by Sea, as she seeks to enlarge it by Land. And

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to such a height of Success hath she arrived, that altho' we could not but look upon her Progress with an Eye of Jealousy, yet we scarce could prevail with ourselves, to believe her possessed of such prodigious commercial Wealth and Power, as we have discovered since the Commencement of the present War. The Number, the Value, and the Variety of our Captures, having sufficiently discovered the different Fountains of those immense Riches, by which she has been enabled to corrupt, or to insult almost all the Powers of *Europe*.

But *England*, having baffled all their Schemes in *Germany*; having taught their Treasure a more honest and commendable Way of circulating thro' these Nations; and having deprived them of *Cape Breton*, which is of so much Importance to the Security of our western Colonies; hath given that faithless Monarch and his People a more mortal Wound, than they could possibly have received in any other Part.

*France* therefore, in order to extricate herself from these Difficulties, and to retrieve her Losses at our Expence, is resolved to make a desperate Push, and impudently bestows the imperial Crown of these Realms on a slavish Pretender; a King of her own creating; born to no other Title than what the Enemies of *England* think fit to give him; nor Master of a single Foot of Property in these Kingdoms, except what can be procured for him by Rapine and Bloodshed.

Supposing

Supposing then, that our People could be in general so regardless of their Interests, or so blinded by foreign Gold and Promises, as to place that slavish Pretender on the Throne: What must naturally be the Consequence?—Why, undoubtedly that the same Power which found itself able to subvert our Constitution, would want no Ability to keep it in a State of Subserviency; and therefore, that all our *British* Possessions which could be supposed any way Detrimental to *France* must immediately be resigned:—*Gibraltar* would be claimed by the *Spanish* Coadjutor; *Cape Breton* would again fall under the Yoke of its late Masters; and Trade, Liberty, Religion, and *British* Glory, subsisting solely by the present Royal Family, would infallibly expire along with it.

Another Reason why we should have an invincible Abhorrence to *France*, is, that it has introduced a Spirit of Luxury and Extravagance among us, only to be enriched by our Vanity, and to promote our Ruin, in proportion as it promotes our Prodigality. Certainly nothing ought to enrage us more, than to see our own Manufactures despised and discouraged, while those of *France*, to our Reproach as well as our Impoverishment, are perpetually imported: and to see our estated Gentlemen loaded with foreign Tinsel, altho' by such indiscreet Expence, their Tenants are perhaps wholly disabled, to answer the Demands of their Landlords, or of their own private Families. I could wish, that every

every Man of Fortune among us, might be taught to think, that every *French* Ornament about his Person, was, and ought to be considered as a publick Declaration in Favour of our common Enemy. I may assert, that every such expensive Embellishment, is at least a publick Insult to the Manufactures, and an equal Injury to the Trade of our native Country, however it may be construed, with regard to any private view to the Interest of *France*. Nor do I think we could shew a Resentment more worthy of ourselves, (particularly at this Time when we are alarmed by *French* Insolence) than to resolve, strenuously to discountenance every individual Article of the Manufactures of that Nation, either in Dress or Furniture. Since, by that Means, our Gold would be preserved in our own Kingdom, where it seems to be universally wanted, and is likely to be more so; by that Means, we should prove a flourishing and a prosperous People; and their Natives would, in their Turn experience that Poverty, which our Follies, and our unnatural Fondness for foreign Goods and Fashions, hath so long occasioned among ourselves.

These Considerations ought to prevail with every true Protestant, who is a Lover of his Country, to be zealous for the present happy Establishment. The Blessings produced by the Revolution under the Glorious King *William*, the People of this Kingdom have particularly felt, and most sensibly feel under the present Government. To what End therefore should

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we wish to alter it, or enter into the Views of those who would introduce a foreign Power?—Can our Invaders suppose, that the Sufferings of King *James's* Reign are not fresh in our Memories?—There are few Families in this Nation who have not terrible Cause to remember the Devastations, the Persecutions; and the Inhumanity which was exercised on all Ranks and Degrees of the Inhabitants; during that detestable Tyranny. —And can it be supposed that there lives a single Protestant, who would enable the same Spirit to execute the same Iniquities among us? —I am at a Loss to determine, whether it be a greater Insult to our Understanding or our Loyalty, to imagine us capable of being cajoled to exchange Freedom, for Oppression; Opulence, for Beggary; pure Religion, for Idolatry; extensive Trade, for a limited and precarious one; present Blessings, for most unhappy Prospects; and from being the Terror of *France* and *Spain*, tamely to submit to become Slaves of both?—And I do not doubt, but the very mention of such Inconsistency will be sufficient to open the Eyes of our People; and prevent their being imposed upon by false Expectations from false Promises; or their being deluded by disaffected and dangerous Advisers into the most destructive, and dangerous Undertaking.

I must further observe, that not only Protestants of every Denomination, but even the Papists themselves would be imprudent to contribute

tribute to any Alteration in the present Constitution, or even to desire it. For, under his Majesty King *George* they live in Peace and Security, unmolested either in their Properties or in their publick Worship; and are Sharers of every essential Advantage in Trade or Commerce with the Protestant Natives themselves: Which is quite contrary to the Treatment that Protestants receive, under the Government of those two persecuting Powers, who are jointly interested in the present Invasion.

What greater Lenity and Moderation, or rather what greater Tenderness and Indulgence can Papists expect, than what they have experienced from his present Majesty? Their Nunneries are publickly known, even in the Metropolis, as well as in most Counties of this Kingdom; and their Seminaries of Regulars as well as their Schools, are every where extreamly numerous: Their Clergy officiate in every Parish without Fear or Restraint, and for some Years past, *France* hath poured such Swarms of itinerant Priests into these Kingdoms, that the People of that Religion are oppressed, and complain of the *beggarly Abundance*. The Papists themselves are conscious that all this is done in direct Violation of the positive Laws of this Kingdom; yet not one of those Nunneries hath been suppressed; not one Ecclesiastick persecuted; not one Mass-house disturbed or defaced; not a single itinerant Priest prohibited from solliciting, or rather extorting Contributions,

tions, from their infatuated and bigotted Brethren.

What therefore can the Papists desire more? They are much out in their Computation, if they flatter themselves with additional Incomes, Places, Estates, or Donations: — For, *Spain* and *France*, if they had Weight enough to introduce the Pretender, would, together with his Adherents, devour all that was beneficial; and the poor deluded Papists, would probably have only more Taxes to pay; more Priests to prey upon them; more Armies to support, and less Trade to discharge these Expences than they have at the present.

Besides, I would further recommend it to the *Roman* Catholicks, to be cautious in running rashly into the *intended* Rebellion, from the experienced Treachery of the *French* in all their Engagements and Undertakings. That Nation has never but one single Object to which it directs all its Engines, its Wealth, and its Arms; and that is, to aggrandize itself at the Expence of the whole World; and it varies its Alliances and Attachments, just according to the various Appearances of promoting its own private Advantages. To that Principle alone, are owing the Disturbances fomented in *Great-Britain*: which are calculated, not so much to serve the Pretender or his Family, as to put us under a Necessity of withdrawing our Troops from the Continent, by that Means to weaken

the Power of the Allies, which is the only Barrier against the exorbitant Ambition of *France*.

So that the Papists, by being too credulous, may be spirited up to enter indiscreetly into such pernicious Measures, as may extort Severity from the mildest Government; may leave them to pay the just Penalty of their Ingratitude and unsuccessful Efforts; and may occasion them to fall a very unpitied Sacrifice, to the treacherous Policy of the *French*, in this Project for supporting a Pretender.

Let them only reflect, how those of our Nation are used who enter into foreign Military Service. They are poorly maintained, and worse treated; neglected in Peace, and exposed to every Danger in War: Placed, just in the Face of inevitable Destruction, and flattered to believe every Post intended to them as a Post of Honour, which is meant as nothing more, than to secure their own People, at the Expence of ours. And, tho' I cannot but say, that they are used as they deserve, for taking up Arms against their native Country; yet methinks, the Papists ought not to be so forward for the future to enlist into that Service, since the utmost Reward they can have or hope, is only to experience, (as all their Countrymen have done,) the same unprofitable and cruel Generosity.

It undoubtedly is, and ought to be the highest Happiness to every loyal Protestant, to observe, that an Attempt against these Kingdoms could never be attended with less Probability of Success,

Success, than under the Reign of his present Majesty King *George*. For, all intestine Com-motions in order to a Revolution in the State, are heavy, just, and unregarded Complaints among the Subjects, caused by oppressive Extor-tions, by illegal Methods; or a denial of those Rights and Privileges to the People, of which they have been long in Possession, and to which they are intitled; yet seem to be in hazard of losing them by Inroachments of the regal Power: and especially under an arbitrary or weak Prince, who neither hath Fortitude to maintain the Honour of the Nation abroad, nor Prudence to direct it by proper Councils and Councillors at home. But, our present *Ruler* cannot have the smallest Imputation against his Government, from any of these Articles. Con-tent with that Power which the Laws of the Constitution allow him, he seeks no more; and gives his happy Subjects every Branch of Liber-ty in its utmost Extent, which they ever pos-sessed under the most Beneficent of his Prede-cessors. His Prerogative stops, just where the Freedom of his People hath prescribed its Bounds; nor has he in the minutest Point en-deavoured to extend it, altho' such Attempts have been frequent in some former Reigns; and were incontestibly the Causes, of all the Cala-mities derived upon these Kingdoms under arbi-trary Monarchs. His personal Bravery can claim all *Europe* for its Witness; and it is, at this Moment, dreadfully felt thro' *France*, in  
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the Loss of the Flower of their Nobility. *Dettingen* will be memorable for the Proofs of his Valour, as well as for his paternal Tenderness to his Soldiers; since he shared the whole Terrors and Dangers of the Field, with the poorest of those Subjects which he commanded. And what endears him still more to his People, is, that every Act of Virtue, Courage or Conduct, was attended with its Reward; every individual who merited Distinction, received it.

His *Prudence* also is equally manifested in the Choice of his Counsellors, who are universally acknowledged to adorn the Stations in which they are employed. The Management of the *Treasury of England*, is committed to a Person of most unbiassed Integrity and Probity; a Statesman, not more remarkable for his thorough Knowledge of the various Interests of *Europe*, than for his directing that Knowledge to the Benefit and Interest of his Country; and who discharges that great Trust, without Envy, as without Corruption.

Nor is the Office of Secretary of State less worthily or excellently filled; as it is executed by Noblemen who have proved themselves on all Occasions, steady Friends to the Constitution; and watchful to assert the Liberties of the Subject, as by the Wisdom of their Councils to support the Dignity of their King.

The conferring that important Post of the *Viceroyship of Ireland*, on our present Governor, is another eminent Instance of the Prudence,

as well as the Benevolence of his Majesty to Us: placing at the Head of our Affairs a Statesman of consummate Abilities: whose Learning and Wit, in which he has no Competitor, are yet known to be the least of his Accomplishments. Whose Oratory, for Strength, Reason, Elegance, and Dignity, might be an Honour to ancient *Greece* or *Rome*, as it is the Pride and the Ornament of his own Nation: And who has the Felicity of making himself not more admired, than he is beloved.

These Ministers want no Encomium; nor could they receive any additional Lustre, from the richest of those Praises which they merit. The Honour and Welfare of his Majesty and his People, seem to engross their whole Application and Attention: and, what rarely happens to Persons in their Stations, they receive a noble return of Affection and Confidence from the Subjects, as well as from the Throne itself. Our Acquisition of *Cape Breton*, with so small an Expence of Blood and Treasure, will be a lasting and honourable Monument of their political Wisdom; and the Defeat of the present Invasion, will entitle Posterity to compare them to that illustrious *Cecil* under *Q. Elizabeth*; who, like them gave the best Council to the best Monarch, and, under Providence, disappointed the boldest and basest Attempt, against the Religion and Liberties of these Kingdoms.

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So that as there is no manner of Foundation at this Time for popular Clamour, or publick Disaffection, either from want of Fortitude or Prudence in our King, or want of Abilities in his Ministers; from Power improperly coveted by the one, or exerted by the others; certainly *France* and *Spain* could never have schemed a Revolution, at a more improper, or unpromising Season. The secret Enemies of our Government, may represent Things abroad in what Light they please; but, we shall convince them, to their Expence and Confusion, that we know our own Happiness too well, to exchange it for certain Slavery, Oppression, and Poverty.

Upon the Whole, it may be evident to every unprejudiced Judgment, that an Alteration in the present Government, must be succeeded with fatal Consequences to the civil Rights of every Protestant, as well as to their Religion, which ought to be still more valuable. That, such a Change therefore, must be universally dreaded and abhorred by every Member of the established Church: and at the same Time, ought not to be promoted even by the Papists themselves. And it is to be hoped that the apparent Danger arising from the Invasion of these Kingdoms in Favour of the Pretender, will animate every sincere Lover of his King and his Country, to appear zealously in its Defence: not only to be the Guardians of their own Freedom and Properties, but to be

a Terror to those who are ready to destroy them.

Friends, and Countrymen, we are called upon by the most solemn Oaths, as well as by our Religion to support our King against all his Enemies. And certainly none can willingly violate the First, who hath an honest or Christian Regard to the Latter.

What, tho' the Necessity of Affairs, in order to promote the general Good, may demand our Armies abroad, and leave us without a sufficient regular Force of disciplined Men among us: Are we not capable of being our own Soldiers in such a Cause? In such a Cause, ought not every one of you to be at least as bold and resolute, as any private Person who is only hired for our Defence? Where is there a single Man, so devoid of natural Courage, who would not endeavour at the Hazard of his Life, to repel an Invader of his House or private Property? and ought not every Individual to exert the same vigorous Spirit, against a publick Invader of his Country? Against such an Invader, as threatens at once, under a specious Pretence, the utter Extirpation of all that is desirable to us, our King, our Liberty, our Religion, and all our private Blessings as well as our Publick.

Complaints of want of Arms, want of Ability, or want of Direction, will appear to be, in Truth, only want of Zeal, and want of Patriotism. And our dilatory Proceedings may

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but inspire our Enemies with such desperate and daring Sentiments, as we may hereafter have a terrible Cause to lament. It will be an indelible Blot to us, to be taken unprepared, when Rebellion hath set up its Standard, and we know not how soon the Seat of War and Desolation, may be transferred into the very Bowels of our Kingdom. When our King is in Danger of being betrayed, he that hath two Weapons should *impart to him that hath none*; and he that hath no Sword, *let him sell his Garment and buy one*.

When the Design of an Invasion was first rumoured, it was observable, that there seemed to be a noble Resentment among us all, against *France* for countenancing such a Project, and against the Pretender, for whose Advancement it was undertaken. And it might be expected, that such Appearances of loyal Indignation, would, long before this, have produced some vigorous Measures among ourselves, to disconcert and defeat the boldest of their Schemes. Yet, instead of having that desirable Effect, it is equally observable, that, altho' now the Danger is more manifest, the Rebels in open Arms, the Pretender proclaimed, the Fleets of *Spain* and *France* manned and equipped, and probably destined to make a Descent here, in order to put that Body in Motion which only wants a Head; all our boasted publick Spirit seems to be intirely laid asleep, and the whole Nation apparently lulled in a most dangerous Security.

Where

Where are the *Associations* (except in this City, and a very few Corporation Towns) that the Lovers of their King and Country ought to have established against the common Enemy? Where are the Independent Troops; the Meetings of the Militia throughout the Kingdom; the Resolutions of the principal landed Gentlemen in the several Counties; to intimidate the disaffected, to awe their popish Dependents or Neighbours, and to let the Factious see, that we are ready to oppose them effectually, in the Maintenance of our happy Constitution.

We have indeed, by God's Providence, a very reasonable Prospect of the Suppression of the present Rebellion. The Progress that these Traitors have made, being as yet of no material Consequence; and the Battle which hath been already fought, having ended not so much to their Advantage, as to our Dishonour; in permitting an undisciplined Multitude to accomplish that by Surprize, which they could not have effected by Courage, or military Excellence. But, notwithstanding that considerable Defeat of our Forces, the Enemies of our Government have received a much more mortifying and substantial Defeat, in their late Attempt to hurt the publick Credit, by their sudden and extravagant Draughts on the *Banks of England and Ireland*. For, altho' they had concerted Matters with such Secrecy, as to have that destructive Project executed in both Kingdoms, almost at the same Instant of Time; yet,

yet, as the Danger was imminent; the benevolent Loyalty of our People was proportionably noble and expeditious: Every Man cheerfully contributing to support the National Credit; since any Injury in that Point must necessarily have been attended with terrible Consequences. However, as we cannot suppose that *France* will lay aside its pernicious Views and Machinations, while it hath even the weakest Hope to lay hold of, I would recommend it heartily to my Fellow Subjects, to put themselves in a Posture of Defence; to animate each other by Principles of Loyalty and Liberty; to keep up a Spirit of Union and Harmony among Protestants of all Denominations; to remember the Calamities brought upon this Nation by a *Popish* Government; and to be ready to give the strongest Proof of our Attachment to the Interest of our Religion, and our Country's Happiness, by our steady and affectionate Adherence to our KING.



· F I N I S .

